

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 759

By Bryson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William E. Coleman of Franklin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were saddened to learn of the recent passing of William E. "Bill" Coleman Jr.; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee have been fortunate through the years to have been served by brave and dedicated law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line to carry out their duties; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coleman was one such outstanding citizen who dedicated his professional life to protecting and serving his community; and

WHEREAS, the son of the late William E. Coleman Sr. and Effie Sanders Coleman, he was born in Williamson County; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, he began his career as a Tennessee Highway Patrol Trooper in 1947 and, in 1951, became a Special Agent with the new Tennessee Bureau of Identification, which would become known as the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation in 1980; and

WHEREAS, a legend among his peers, he carried TBI badge No. 1; and

WHEREAS, after taking a well deserved retirement from public law enforcement, Mr. Coleman continued to share his tremendous knowledge and professional expertise through service as Director of the former Security Alarms and Services in Nashville and later as a Security Supervisor for the federal court system in Nashville until retiring from that position in 1997; and

WHEREAS, he was an active and invaluable member of his profession and his community and was a member of the Tennessee Highway Patrol Retired Officers Association,

the American Association of State Troopers, the Fraternal Order of Police, the American Legion, and the Loyal Order of Moose; and

WHEREAS, his professional and civic accomplishments aside, Mr. Coleman was deeply devoted to his family and always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he will be greatly missed by his wife, Elizabeth M. Coleman; sons, William E. Coleman III, Jon Andrew Coleman, and Ronald L. Coleman; sister, Sara Bruce; stepsons, Barry Vincion and Keith Vincion; nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his wife of thirty-four years, Josephine Calvo Coleman; and

WHEREAS, William E. Coleman Jr. leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity and valor in his public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should join all Tennesseans in remembering the bountiful life of this courageous officer and public servant and exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of William E. Coleman Jr., recalling his impeccable character, unquestionable valor and his stalwart commitment to living an exemplary life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Coleman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.